

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

62.61

1924

DATE DUE

MAR 5 3 1925

AMAWALK



How to Reach Amawalk

AMAWALK is located in Westchester County thirty miles north of New York City. The entrance to the Nursery is opposite the railroad station at Amawalk, on the Putnam Branch of the New York Central. This railroad connects in New York City with the Hudson River Division of the New York Central Railroad at High Bridge, and with the Sixth and Ninth Avenue elevated roads at Sedgwick Avenue. Amawalk is eight miles east of Peekskill on the Hudson River Division and seven miles northwest of Mount Kisco on the Harlem Division of the New York Central. The Nursery is located on the State Road from Briarcliff to Lake Mahopac. The main roads in every direction are State Roads and motorists will find them in excellent condition.

AMAWALK NURSERY

INCORPORATED

LOCATED AT AMAWALK
WESTCHESTER COUNTY - NEW YORK

TELEPHONE, YORKTOWN 128

1924

E. W. SMITH
President

ERIC L. HODGE
Vice-President

STEPHEN BRADLEY
Superintendent

NEW YORK CITY OFFICE
372 LEXINGTON AVENUE
TELEPHONE, VANDERBILT 7691

ERIC L. HODGE MAURICE L. CONDON





Planning and Planting " the Home Grounds

THE making of a country place is an investment bringing definite returns both practical and artistic in proportion to the quality of the thought expended on it.

If a piece of country real estate has growing on it large and beautiful trees it is obviously of greater value than the same piece of real estate barren of trees. If the trees are artistically arranged the valuation of the property is still further increased.

Amawalk is in the business of raising the finest trees obtainable with scientific care and handling. We offer our customers the best trees that can be grown.

As we have spent many years of labor and much money in the development of our trees we are naturally desirous that when transplanted to a private estate, they should be well placed, both scientifically and artistically, in order that they may form a permanent and beautiful planting.

We are glad to give our customers advice as to what variety of trees will grow best on their land with due regard to soil, light, and exposure; and can advise them as to the height and future development of the nursery trees which they are purchasing.

In regard to the placing of these trees and the design and construction of their grounds (road building, grading, disposition of lawn areas, gardens whether formal or informal, and all the other features of beauty or service) we will be glad to give them information as to those whose training has been along these lines and who specialize in this work.

Engineers can lay out roads and do grading; nurserymen can advise in regard to plant material and growing conditions; but the land-

scape architect combines the work of the engineer, the nurseryman and the artist.

He has the practical knowledge of the nurseryman, the scientific knowledge of the engineer, and his own technical skill and power of design.

With this combination he saves time and money to those who make use of his services in the development of their estates.

It should be remembered that nursery stock differs greatly from any other kind of material used by designers, in that it is not only perishable, but is always changing and can be used only where the soil and climate are favorable. Any one using it properly must know not only what it looks like when first planted, but what it will look like ten, twenty, or fifty years hence.

All other kinds of materials used by artists are complete when the artist has once given to them the forms he desires; and as soon as they are completed they begin to perish. Only the materials used by the landscape architect in-



Aerial View



f Amawalk

crease yearly in size, beauty, and value.

A country place properly planted should increase yearly in value and beauty and it is to this end that we are anxious to co-operate with our customers.

We will, upon request, be glad to advise them as to how they can best obtain information as to the development of any part of their grounds, and especially will be pleased to explain the advantages they will derive from the services of the landscape architect in the planting and development of their country home.



The Amawalk Nursery

THE Amawalk Nursery was established twenty years ago for the purpose of producing specimen deciduous and evergreen trees.

By specimen trees we mean trees that are practically perfect; that will be useful and ornamental from the beginning; and, properly planted, will develop rapidly and increase in beauty as they grow older.

The location for our Nursery was most carefully selected. Amawalk is situated among the hills of Westchester County, thirty miles north of New York City.

We are in the midst of the estate country located between Long Island Sound and the Hudson River. There are no manufacturing towns in this part of the country, and our air is consequently free from smoke and gasses —an important factor in the development of evergreens.

The Amawalk Nursery comprises nearly 400 acres of the most fertile land in this part of the country. On the hills in our Nursery we have light, dry soils and exposed situations, and in the low lands, rich, heavy

ground and sheltered locations. Owing to these exposures and soils we are able to grow each kind of tree under the conditions most favorable to its development.

As our winters are unusually severe, we are limited to growing only those varieties which we have proved to be absolutely hardy. It is our practice to discontinue growing any variety of tree which will not stand our most severe winters, such as the London Plane (*Platanus Orientalis*) and numerous varieties of fancy evergreens.

We are naturally anxious to include for the benefit of our customers as many varieties as possible, but our practice always has been never to offer for sale any tree that we are not convinced will thrive and reach its full development when transplanted to a park or private estate.

The marked severity of our winter weather has aided us however, in many ways, as it has enabled us to develop trees of greater strength and vitality than are usually obtainable in a milder climate.

The preliminary care of the ground before the young trees are planted is extremely important. At Amawalk the ground is thoroughly prepared by deep ploughing and fertilization, and after the trees are planted they are constantly cultivated from May until September. This stirring up of the ground not only prevents the growth of weeds, but greatly increases the activity of the young roots.

Our trees are planted unusually far apart so that they may receive full benefit of the sunlight, and as they grow are frequently root pruned and transplanted.

Experts prune off imperfect or badly formed branches, and otherwise correct any inclination toward crookedness or ugliness.

Thus cared for, our trees develop rapidly and experience the minimum set back after transplanting.

In 1903 the first small trees were planted at Amawalk, the finest stock obtainable. This high standard has been consistently maintained ever since. We never plant or keep a tree in our Nursery that is not perfect in every respect, as poor, unhealthy trees will never develop into fine, large specimens.

In 1909 the first Amawalk trees were offered for sale. Each year our trees are developing into finer and larger specimens, receiving our constant care and attention preparatory for their final transplanting. Every tree listed in our catalogue has been growing in our Nursery for from five to twenty years.

We are always pleased to have our customers visit our Nursery and select by tagging their own trees. When this is not convenient, we make our best selection for them.

No order is dug until just before the trees are to leave the Nursery. If the trees are to be delivered by truck, they are dug in the morning, loaded on the truck in the afternoon, and delivered as early as possible the next morning. When the order is to be shipped by freight, the trees are not dug until the freight car is in our siding.

The greatest care is taken in the digging and handling of our trees, so as not to injure either the root system or the branches. Our most experienced men are in charge of the digging, the balling and the loading of the trees.

In loading a truck, the number of trees, sizes and varieties are considered in order to obtain a well balanced load and insure the delivery of all the trees in good condition. Whenever we have several small orders to be delivered by truck in one neighborhood,

we make the deliveries in one load, thereby reducing the delivery charge for our customers.

In loading a freight car, the trees are placed in the car as soon as they are dug; the roots are then covered with straw and soaked with water. This is to prevent the roots from drying out. The trees are placed in the car in such a way as to facilitate the unloading, and we send, whenever desired, instructions for the unloading of each car.

Owing to our location on the Putnam branch of the New York Central Railroad we are able to obtain the large double-end-door automobile freight cars that come to New York City from the West. These cars are routed back empty and are easy for us to obtain.

Another advantage of our location on the Putnam Railroad is that our freight shipments to the North, South, East and West do not have to be routed through New York City. Our shipments to the West make Albany the second day after leaving Amawalk.

We have had a great deal of experience in the proper selection of trees to be planted, which includes the consideration of the soil conditions and exposure to winds and sunlight, and their effect upon the different varieties. This experience we place at the command of our customers.

Through a method of inspection of all trees planted within calling distance of our Nursery, we are in touch with the condition of each tree we send out and give advice in regard to its care. These inspections are made periodically, and a record is kept in our office.

To those customers who live too far from our Nursery to get the benefit of this service we give our best advice by letter, and endeavor to have a representative inspect their trees at least once or twice a year.

It is our desire to reach the point where every tree that we send out not only lives, but thrives, and we are anxious to co-operate with our customers to this end, and to obtain for them at an early date the full beauty and development of their trees.







